



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

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State Health Department Releases 2003 Drinking Water Compliance Report

BISMARCK, N.D. - Information about North Dakota's public water systems is available in the newly released 2003 Drinking Water Compliance Report prepared by the North Dakota Department of Health.

North Dakota public water systems maintain an excellent Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) compliance record, according to Larry Thelen, manager of the Department of Health's Drinking Water Program. In 2003, the state health department issued 411 certificates of compliance to operators and public water systems.

"The purpose of the annual report is to improve consumer awareness of drinking water compliance issues," Thelen said. "People served by systems that incurred Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) violations in 2003 should have been informed of those violations by their water suppliers."

All SDWA violations incurred in North Dakota in 2003 are included in the report. Also listed are violations recorded in 2004 and based on 2003 monitoring data.

"It's important to understand that the majority of violations referred to in the 2003 report have been resolved," Thelen said. "It is a significant challenge for public water systems and states to meet the ever-increasing number of requirements of the SDWA."

To obtain a copy of the 2003 Drinking Water Compliance Report, write to the North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Municipal Facilities, P.O. Box 5520, Bismarck, N.D. 58506-5520, or call 701.328.5211. A summary of the report can be viewed on the department's website at www.health.state.nd.us.

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